

# Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club (TFNC)

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BULLETIN NO. 255 SUPPLEMENT TO THE "TASMANIAN NATURALIST"

JUNE 1989

The Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club is devoted to the study of all forms of Natural History, and is comprised of both experts and beginners. We cover a wide variety of topics, and we support conservation. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month, except January, in the CSIRO Conference Room, Stowell Ave, Battery Point, at 7.45 p.m. Outings are usually held the following weekend, meeting outside the new entrance to the Museum, Macquarie Street.

The Club's address is G.P.O. Box 68A, Hobart, 7001 and the Secretary is Ms Helen Davidson, phone 25 2754.

## \*\*\*\*\* PROGRAME

- Thurs. 3rd Aug. 7.45p.m. Alan Hewer, one of our Life Members will give an illustrated talk on his special interest, Tasmanian frogs. A tape recording of their different calls will be played.
- Sat. 5th Aug. 9.00a.m. Alan will lead an outing to Marion Bay to search suitable habitats for frogs. Eastern shore members may join Alan at the Sun Valley Inn, Mornington at 9.05 a.m.
- Thurs. 7th Sept. 7.45p.m. Members slide and photo night. Gilbert van Munster, Phil Collier, Mem Tagg and Janet Slater will provide insights into their recent overseas trips. Other participants are welcome.
- Fri. 22nd Sept to CONINGHAM CAMP  
Sun. 24th Sept.
- Thurs. 5th Oct. 7.45p.m. Mr. Geoff Copson, of the Wildlife Division of Lands, Parks and Wildlife will speak on Environmental Management of Macquarie Island. (Tentative)
- Sat. 7th Oct. 10.00a.m. Rod Fensham and Louise Gilfedder will show us some of the rare and beautiful plants in the Waverly Park Nature Reserve which they describe as "a grassy gem on Hobart's Eastern shore".
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CHAUNCY VALE REVISITED? It has been suggested that we conduct an evening or overnight outing to Chauncy Vale to observe the numerous native animals as they come down to the creek area to drink and feed. If you are interested in participating in such an activity please contact Helen Davidson (ph. 25 2754).

TFNC has agreed to produce a small leaflet on Animal Tracks and Signs at Chauncy Vale for use by visiting school and natural history groups. These animal signs are plentiful in the Sanctuary and their identification makes a visit that much more interesting.

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## CONINGHAM CAMP

An information sheet, tentative programme and application form have been produced and distributed to member clubs of the Federation of Field Naturalist Clubs of Tasmania, as well as to our own members. If you would like to attend and have not yet received your copies, please contact Helen by phone (25 2754) or at the August meeting.  
REMEMBER THAT PAYMENT NEEDS TO BE FINALIZED BY AUGUST 20TH.

Copies of archaeological and botanic survey reports of the Coningham State Recreation Area will be available to guide us in our exploration of the surrounding beach and bushland. The trip to Bruny Island should prove particularly interesting to botanists. A range of accommodation is available, so come along and enjoy a great weekend with naturalists from all over the State!

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NEW MEMBERS The Club welcomes Nick Sawyer (South Hobart) and Marjorie Kanagaratnam (Cranbrook) as new members. Nick is a student in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Tasmania and Marjorie is a keen naturalist whose special interest is botany.

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"NEW LOOK" TASMANIAN NATURALIST Members will have noted that the Tasmanian Naturalist now has a new banner heading and a different print style. We hope you like the more modern, compact look.

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SPEAKERS NOW ON TAPE! Suitable talks given at TFNC meetings are now being recorded on audiocassette and are available for loan by members who are unable to attend meetings due to age, disability or distance from Hobart. Wayne Fulton's talk on Tasmanian Freshwater Fishes and Hans Wapstra's talk on Whales and Dolphins are now available. The committee is presently investigating the purchase of a microphone and/or cassette recorder to improve the quality of taping, and hopes members will welcome the provision of this service. If you would like to be on the mailing list to receive tapes and are willing to make a contribution towards the cost of the audiocassettes and postage, please contact Helen Davidson (ph. 25 2754) for further details.

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SUGGESTION BOX The Club has a large membership but not all members participate in Club activities. Perhaps this is due to ill-health, family commitments or poor weather. The committee would like to learn of some of these reasons and would welcome any suggestions to make activities more accessible and relevant to these members. Also, perhaps you have a speaker you would like to hear, a special-interest topic you would like to learn more about, or an area of natural history significance you would love to visit.

Please contact a committee member by phone, letter or any other means to make your ideas and wishes known.

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NEW CLUB BOOK OR TAPE? The committee is presently exploring the possibility of publishing a new booklet on Tasmanian frogs, lizards or butterflies. One suggestion is that we produce a book and audiocassette entitled "What Frog is That?" Another idea is to provide an audiocassette of bird calls to accompany the Tasmanian birds book. If you have any suggestions or could assist in any way, please contact a committee member as your advice would be much appreciated.

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LATEST ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY The books reviewed in the Tasmanian Naturalist are donated to the TFNC library and are available for loan by members on a monthly basis. Recent additions are:-

Where to Find Birds in Australia - John Bransbury  
Your Garden Birds - Ellen M. McCulloch  
The Wombat (Common Wombats in Australia) - Barbara Triggs  
Wildflowers of Mt. Wellington - Phil Collier  
The Lyrebird - A Natural History - Pauline Reilly  
Ferns and Allied Plants of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia - Betty Duncan and Golda Isaac  
The Cambridge Illustrated Dictionary of Natural History - R.J. Lincoln and G. A. Boxhall

Please contact Helen or Judy Sprent if you wish to borrow any of these. The library is accessible during business hours or on regular meeting nights. It is housed in the CSIRO building next door to the meeting room.